

SENATE RESOLUTION 153

By Stanley

A RESOLUTION to commend Lily Coats Thompson for exemplary service as a legislative intern.

WHEREAS, each legislative session this body is pleased to recognize certain persons who have committed themselves, through their adroit service, to the betterment of the legislative process; and

WHEREAS, Lily Coats Thompson is one such individual who has distinguished herself in her role as a legislative intern for Senator Paul Stanley; Ms. Thompson's work has resulted in innumerable benefits for the legislators she assisted and the General Assembly as a whole; and

WHEREAS, eager to familiarize herself with the characteristics and complexities of Tennessee state government and to further her studies at the University of Memphis, Ms. Thompson brought a keen intellect, a singular ambition, and a wide array of abilities to Capitol Hill for the 2009 session of the One Hundred Sixth General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, on May 9, 2009, Ms. Thompson graduated *cum laude* with University Honors from the University of Memphis, where she was highly regarded by her peers and instructors alike for the excellence of her work and for her endearing personal qualities as well; and

WHEREAS, named to the Dean's List in both 2006 and 2008, Ms. Thompson belonged to a number of honor societies, including the Alpha Lambda Delta National Honor Society, which she served as President; the Sigma Alpha Lambda National Leadership and Honors Organization, which she also served as President; and Pi Sigma Alpha, the National Political Science Honor Society; and

WHEREAS, a highly valued member of Delta Gamma, Lily Thompson served the sorority's Delta Zeta chapter as Director of E-Communications in 2007, and in 2008 she was the Vice-President of Foundations; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Thompson has been quite active in her community as well; she has volunteered her time to the YMCA Center for Civic Engagement, serving since 2006 as a member of the conference staff for both the Model United Nations and Youth in Government Programs; and

WHEREAS, in addition, at the 2006 Cotton Carnival, Ms. Thompson was named the Ra Met Princess; and

WHEREAS, Lily Thompson's illustrious years at the University of Memphis form only the latest chapter in a long and distinguished academic career that began in 1991 at Hutchison School when she was four years old; and

WHEREAS, arriving with her mother for her first day of junior kindergarten, Ms. Thompson found a long line of teachers assembled to shepherd their new students to class; with the same enthusiasm and delight that still characterizes her today, Ms. Thompson exclaimed, "Look, Mommy, they are here to see me!"; and

WHEREAS, over the next thirteen years, Lily Thompson excelled at every opportunity; in middle school, she participated in the Model United Nations and the Youth Legislature, and she was nominated for the Duke Talented Youth Program and won the eighth grade English Award; and

WHEREAS, in her high school years at Hutchison, Lily Thompson participated in a number of clubs and organizations, including the Junior Classical League, the Art Club, the Environmental Club, the Astrophysics Society, the French Club, and the Hutchison golf team; and

WHEREAS, a leader among her peers, Ms. Thompson served as the President of the Government Club; a member of the Model United Nations Security Council; the Clerk of the Red House, Conference on National Affairs for the Youth Legislature; the Team Captain of the Mock Trial team; a Section Editor and the Creative Director/Editor of *The Lantern*, Hutchison's yearbook; and the President of Quill and Scroll; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to awards and accolades, Ms. Thompson received the Ruth and Bliss Bolin Creativity Award and was named Mock Trial's Best Lawyer; she was accepted to the National Youth Leadership Conference on Medicine and the Vanderbilt Program for Talented Youth; she was also a member of the Sara Fry History Honor Society; and

WHEREAS, she is an accomplished poet and sculptress as well; during one Hutchison School honors assembly, Ms. Thompson was asked to read a poem she had dedicated to those who perished on September 11, 2001; and

WHEREAS, in spring 2005, her sculpture "The Broken Girl" appeared on the cover of THE EMBLEM, Hutchison's magazine of art and literature, and another of her sculptures, "Inevitable Failure," was featured in the same issue; and

WHEREAS, an active member of the larger community beyond Hutchison School, Lily Thompson has volunteered for Habitat for Humanity, the Special Olympics, and as a neighborhood school tutor, and in her senior year, Ms. Thompson dedicated much of her time and energy to a Heifer International Service Project; for three consecutive summers, she was active in the Independent Presbyterian Church Vacation Bible School; and

WHEREAS, Lily Coats Thompson is one of the latest additions to a venerable and storied American family; her great- great-grandfather, Thomas Jefferson Prichard of Smithville, moved to Texas in 1890; and

WHEREAS, over a life that lasted 101 years, Mr. Prichard fathered eight children, establishing an extensive family of pioneers, farmers, ranchers, and explorers; and

WHEREAS, born November 10, 1986, in Memphis, Ms. Thompson is the granddaughter of C.S. Thompson and the late Elizabeth Thompson and the late Ira Prichard; her parents are Dr. Tommy C. Thompson and Linda Y. Thompson; and

WHEREAS, Lily Thompson is most grateful for the relationship she has with her five siblings, Thomas C. Thompson, C. Scott Thompson, Heather Y. Thompson, Gretchen D. Thompson, and Chase B. Thompson, her three nieces, and her three nephews; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Thompson is truly a credit to her lineage, and the many members of her family are justifiably proud of this young woman, who possesses such talent and potential; and

WHEREAS, throughout the 2009 legislative session, Ms. Thompson has surpassed all criteria that define a devoted and conscientious legislative intern; and

WHEREAS, she has performed her many duties with extraordinary insight and rare decorum; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby commend Lily Coats Thompson

for outstanding service as a legislative intern for Senator Paul Stanley and extend to her our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.